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Attorney Docket No. 04043/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): S. NOMURA et al.

Serial No. : 10/764,414

Filed : January 23, 2004

For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, IMAGE  
PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE  
PROCESSING PROGRAM

Art Unit : 2621

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the documents identified on the attached form PTO/SB/08A. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the documents listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

Commercially available English Language Abstracts are provided for each of the Japanese documents submitted herewith.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date noted below.

*N. S. Sahadeo*

Nalini P. Sahadeo

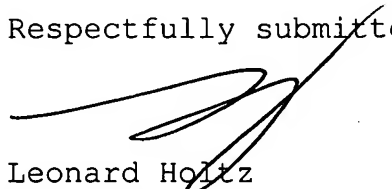
Dated: May 24, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

The three documents submitted herewith are identified as Documents 1-3 at page 5, lines 9-14 of the present specification. These documents are discussed on pages 3-5 of the present specification. It is respectfully submitted that the discussion in the present specification, and the English language Abstracts submitted herewith, constitute an explanation of materiality, as required by the USPTO.

It is respectfully requested that the documents submitted herewith be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz  
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: May 24, 2004

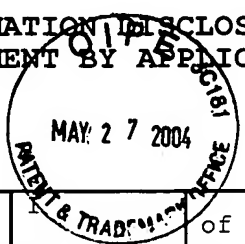
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  		Application Number	10/764,414
		Filing Date	01/23/2004
		First Named Inventor	S. NOMURA
		Group Art Unit	2821
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number		04043/LH

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits <sup>*</sup>	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits <sup>*</sup>	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Offc <sup>3</sup>	Document Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T <sup>6</sup>
	A	JP	11-284860	A	KONICA CORP.	10-15-1999		X*
	B	JP	2001-084274	A	FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD	03-03-2001		X*
	C	JP	2002-199202	A	SEIKO EPSON CORP	07-12-2002		X*
			*English Language Abstract only					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: May 24, 2004